

Message Text

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64

ORIGIN EB-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 FAA-00 CAB-02 CIAE-00 COME-00

DODE-00 DOTE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 L-03 /032 R

DRAFTED BY EB/OA/AVP:JSGRAVATT/FAA:NPLUMMER:GL

APPROVED BY EB/OA/AVP:AJWHITE

EUR/SE-BSCARLIS

EB/OA/AVP - SCKEITER

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P 082234Z MAR 76

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY ATHENS PRIORITY

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAIR, GR

SUBJECT: CIVAIR - USER CHARGES

REF: (A) ATHENS 2086 AND (B) STATE 51123

1. WE APPRECIATE SENSITIVITY OF PROBLEMS DESCRIBED IN
PARA. 1 OF REFTEL (A) BUT DELAY OF FAA'S INFORMAL FACT-
FINDING VISIT PENDING RESOLUTION THESE PROBLEMS DOES NOT
SEEM PRACTICABLE, PARTICULARLY SINCE FAA UNLIKELY FINANCE
ANOTHER EUROPEAN TRIP FOR THIS PURPOSE.

2. UNDER 1974 INTERNATIONAL AIR TRANSPORTATION FAIR
COMPETITIVE PRACTICES ACT, SECRETARY OF TRANSPORTATION
IS REQUIRED SURVEY AVIATION USER CHARGES MADE TO US AIR
CARRIERS BY FOREIGN GOVERNMENTS AND DETERMINE WHETHER SUCH
CHARGES ARE "UNREASONABLY EXCESSIVE OR OTHERWISE DIS-
CRIMINATORY". IF SUCH CHARGES ARE DETERMINED TO BE
EXCESSIVE OR DISCRIMINATORY AND ARE NOT REDUCED OR
ELIMINATED WITHIN A REASONABLE PERIOD, THE SECRETARY OF
TRANSPORTATION IS REQUIRED TO DETERMINE US COMPENSATING
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CHARGES TO BE IMPOSED ON THE CARRIER OR CARRIERS OF FOREIGN

COUNTRY INVOLVED.

3. PRELIMINARY EVIDENCE INDICATES THE GREEKS ARE IMPOSING
DISCRIMINATORY CHARGES ON US CARRIERS.

4. BEFORE THE SECRETARY OF TRANSPORTATION MAKES A
FINDING OF DISCRIMINATION, WE BELIEVE IT IS IMPORTANT
TO OUR RELATIONS WITH GREEK CIVIL AVIATION AUTHORITIES
TO PROVIDE THEM WITH EVERY OPPORTUNITY TO EXPLAIN THEIR
POSITION IN CONSULTATIONS WITH THE FAA. THESE
CONSULTATIONS ARE THEREFORE PART OF AN IMPORTANT PROCESS
IN CONVINCING THE GREEKS THAT WE ARE NOT ACTING
ARBITRARILY.

5. WE FORESEE A LOW-KEY, INFORMAL COOPERATIVE MEETING
WITH EMBASSY OFFICER PARTICIPATING.

6. PLEASE REPEAT TO PARIS FOR PLUMMER, FAA ARRANGEMENTS
EMB ABLE TO MAKE FOR INFORMAL MEETING IN ATHENS
MARCH 12 AND HOTEL RESERVATION FOR MARCH 11. KISSINGER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: LANDING TAXES, AVIATION AGREEMENTS, TRANSPORTATION TAXES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 08 MAR 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: BoyleJA
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976STATE056311
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: JS GRAVATT/FAA:NPLUMMER:GL
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760087-1193
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760383/aaaacvix.tel
Line Count: 79
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN EB
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 76 ATHENS 2086
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: BoyleJA
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 20 APR 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <20 APR 2004 by ElyME>; APPROVED <16 AUG 2004 by BoyleJA>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: CIVAIR - USER CHARGES
TAGS: EAIR, GR, US
To: ATHENS
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006